



# NEW JERSEY WEEKLY CROP WEATHER

## New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service

In Cooperation With:  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A.  
Rutgers University

### NOAA WEATHER RADIO STATIONS

**Allentown**  
WXL-39 on the VHF-FM  
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.  
**Atlantic City**  
KHB-38 on the VHF-FM  
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.  
**New York City**  
KWO-35 on the VHF-FM  
frequency of 160.55 Megahertz.  
**Philadelphia**  
KIH-28 on the VHF-FM  
frequency of 162.475 Megahertz.

### NEW JERSEY AUCTIONS

**Vineland**  
Phone: (856)691-0721  
Sales 10:00AM Daily except Sunday.  
**Landisville**  
Phone: (856)697-2273  
Direct Sales Daily  
**Swedesboro**  
Phone: (856)476-0313  
**Hightstown**  
Phone: (609)448-0193  
Auction Sales Mon-Wed-Fri-7pm

Volume 67 No. 24 Date: September 19, 2005

## Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania Issued by Rutgers University New Brunswick, NJ 8 am EDT Mon, September 19, 2005

Rainfall amounts, none through tonight, one to two tenths with locally heavy amounts possible Tuesday afternoon.

Winds for spraying, southwest 5 mph today, light south wind tonight, southwest 10 to 15 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent, 40 to 50 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 45 to 55 Tuesday.

Dew points, near 60 today and tonight, 60 to 65 Tuesday.

Drying conditions, good today, fair at best Tuesday.

Frost, freeze or dew, moderate dew tonight and again Tuesday night.

Percent of possible sunshine, 90 today, 50 Tuesday.

There is a near zero percent probability of precipitation during the 12 hour period beginning at 8 am and ending at 8 pm that could adversely affect the performance of pesticides that require a rain free period after application.

Conditions should be unfavorable for cranberry scald today and Tuesday.

Hay cutting will see good drying conditions today but then with a risk of wetting in showers on Tuesday. Drier air should return for Wednesday through the end of the week.

Soil moisture remains short in many locations and very short in some. There is a chance of showers on Tuesday, but widespread heavy rainfall is not expected.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period September 26, 2005, through October 2, 2005, is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to total below normal.

### Climate summary for the week ending 8 am 9/19/05

Temperatures averaged much above normal, averaging 73 degrees north, 75 degrees central, and 77 degrees south. Extremes were 95 degrees at Canoe Brook on September 14, 2005, and 53 degrees at Charlotteburg, Newton, and Freehold on September 13, 2005.

Weekly rainfall averaged 1.55 inches north, 0.90 inches central, and 0.53 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 2.71 inches at Canoe Brook on September 14, 2005 through September 15, 2005.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 76 percent north, 61 percent central, and 39 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 72 degrees north, 73 degrees central, and 73 degrees south.

### Weather Summary for the Week Ending 8 am Monday, September 19, 2005

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing Degree Days		Soil Moisture
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week				1/		
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	
- Inches -										

\*Departure from normal.  
1/ Growing degree days since March 1, 2005, total and departure from normal or long term average.  
2/ Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

Fall Vegetables Harvested in Good Volume

Outdoor activities included harvesting corn for silage and grain, cutting and baling hay, spraying, irrigating, picking apples, and harvesting fall vegetables. Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, September 18, 2005, were 6.0. Topsoil moisture was rated 30% very short, 65% short, and 5% adequate. Rainfall ranged from 0.02 inch to 2.82 inches. Temperatures were above normal during the week. Summer vegetable harvest continued across the state. Harvest of fall vegetables began last week. Majority of the vegetables were rated in good condition. Field corn for grain harvest began in a few fields. Corn and soybeans were rated in mostly fair condition across the state. Potato harvest continued. Peach harvest neared completion in the central district. Apple harvest continued. Apple crop condition was rated good. Pasture was rated in mostly poor to fair condition.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR SEPTEMBER 19, 2005

**Arugula & Cilantro** - Harvesting good quality and quantity with the cooler temperatures.

**Baby Arugula & Baby Spinach** - Harvesting in good quality and volume.

**Basil** - Harvesting in good quantity and quality until frost.

**Beets** - Harvesting in good quantity and quality.

**Broccoli** - Should begin harvesting later this week in Central Jersey.

**Cabbage** - Now harvesting a fall crop in good quantity and quality.

**Cantaloupes** - Harvesting good quality product in minimal to decreasing quantity. Finishing up.

**Collards & Kale** - Harvesting in good quantity and quality.

**Cucumbers & Pickles** (Kirby cucumbers) - Harvesting both in good quantity and quality.

**Dill** - Harvesting in good quality and quantity with the cooler temperatures.

**Eggplant** - Harvesting Italian and Asian varieties in good quantity and great quality. The fall brings out the best in this vegetable.

**Escarole/Endive** - Just started harvesting a very good quality fall crop in light to increasing volume.

**Greens** - Good quality and quantities harvested of Kholrabi, Mustard, and Swiss Chard.

**Green Beans** - Harvesting in good quality and quantity.

**Green Onions & Leeks** - Spring planted varieties are available in good quality and quantity.

**Lettuces** - Harvesting good quality Boston in fair to good quantity. Just started harvesting good quality Red & Green Leaf in fair quantity.

**Nectarines** - The Fantasia variety is being harvested in light to decreasing volume and will be finishing up in the next week or so. Expect good size, flavor, and finish.

**Okra** - Harvesting in fair to decreasing quantity and good quality. Finishing up in a few weeks.

**Parsley** - Harvesting in good quantity and quality.

**Peaches** - Many peaches are still waiting to be picked. The Encore, our most heavily planted peach variety, and the Lauro varieties are now being harvested in good volume. We'll have good quality yellow peaches until the end of the month. The white variety Snow Giant is being picked in fair to decreasing volume. White peaches will be available for another week or two in decreasing quantity. Fruit quality, size, and flavor are all very good.

**Peppers** - Harvesting in good quantity and quality. We also have an excellent assortment of great quality hot peppers available. It's been a very good growing season for hot peppers.

**Spinach** - Just started harvesting light to increasing quantities of good quality product.

**Squash** - Harvesting good quality Yellow and Zucchini in good quantities. Also harvesting a good volume of good quality Acorn, Butternut, and Spaghetti squashes.

**Sweet Corn** - Harvesting in fair to decreasing quantity and fair quality. Quantity and quality normally varies a bit in the fall due to insect pressures though dry weather has minimized their effects so far.

**Sweet Potatoes** - Harvesting good quality in fair to increasing quantities. It will be another week of curing before they are ready for market.

**Tomatoes & Plum Tomatoes** - Harvesting rounds and plums in good quantity and quality.

**White Potatoes** - Harvesting a good volume of the redskin variety Norland and Superior round variety. There will be a large crop of good quality potatoes this year. Source your New Jersey white potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

**Brussel Sprouts** - Should begin harvesting in Central Jersey by the second week of October.

**Cauliflower** - Should begin harvesting by the beginning of October in Central Jersey.

**Cranberries** - The main harvest of fresh market dry harvested berries should begin in early October though the increasing demand for white cranberries will see some berries beginning to be harvested already.

**Pumpkins** - Downy mildew set in early this year in these fields due to another cool and wet spring. Growers that haven't been spraying all season will have problems. These will be hard to source in Jersey this season.